



ST. ALPHONSA SYRO-MALABAR CATHOLIC CHURCH
PARISH BULLETIN
FEBRUARY 2024



*"For God so loved the world that
he gave his one and only Son, that
whoever believes in him shall not
perish but have eternal life"*
John 3:16



Message From Pastor

My dear parishioners in Christ,

BLESSING CEREMONY OF THE MISSION HOUSE AND CHAPEL:-

With immense pleasure and gratitude, I am delighted to announce that our MISSION HOUSE and CHAPEL was blessed on February 3rd, by HIS Excellency Mar Jose Kalluvellil. The parish council members and representatives from various ministries attended this auspicious ceremony. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all who participated. I also want to express my gratitude to everyone who attended the Thanksgiving Holy Qurbana on February 4th, followed by the AGAPE organized in the parish hall. Your presence and sincere participation have truly honored the AMAZING GRACE bestowed upon our community. "Praise the Lord in song, for He has done glorious things; let this be known throughout the earth" (Isaiah 12:4). I thank almighty God for His inevitable gift given to this community.

My sincere thanks to His excellency Mar Jose Kalluvellil, Fr. Jojo Changanamthundathil and Curia members for the approval to proceed and to provide the necessary financial documents from the eparchy in time. I really appreciate Fr Sajy Chakkittamuriyil who has been working tirelessly to raise the capital fund. Also, I acknowledge all the realtors, building committee, parish council and trustees for your wholehearted support behind this achievement. Moreover, it could not have been done without everyone's commitment and generosity. Big thank you from the bottom of my heart.

There will be Holy Qurbana in the mission house chapel from Tuesday to Saturday. I recommend each family to commit on each day for the holy mass with their special intentions.

LENT SEASON:-

The season of lent begins on February 12, Ash Monday. There will be a way of the cross before the holy mass on Sundays and Fridays during the lent.

ANNUAL RETREAT:-

We are very blessed to have Rev SR ANN MARIA SH and team to lead the annual retreat. I encourage all the parishioners to find time to

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Pastor

Fr. Thomas Venmanthara

Trustees

Abraham Varghese

John Sebastian

Shiju Joseph

Vincy William

Secretary

Anju Thomas

attend the retreat. Please mark down your calendar for March 15, 16 & 17.

THANK YOU

We all have enjoyed and experienced the wonderful talents and performances presented in the **CHRISTINGLE EVE 2023**. I extend my gratitude to the coordinators and

organizers of the event for making it a spectacular and versatile one.

Thank you, principal and teachers of catechism ministry, for all your efforts to conduct the midterm assessment very well. God bless.

Fr Thomas Venmanthara

Annual Retreat



Catechism Updates



Upcoming Catechetical Activities:

- **February 4:** Regular class, Parent-Teacher Conference. Bishop will attend the assembly
- **February 11:** Regular Class
- **February 18:** Regular Class, English Qurbana & Pious Association activities
- **February 25:** Regular Class, Teacher's meeting

Pious Association



Pious Association activities were held on January 28. Kids took part in various activities co-ordinated by leaders and animators.



Mission House Ownership

By the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, we acquired ownership of our Mission House on January 4th.



Our sincere thanks to everyone who dedicated their efforts to reaching this significant milestone.

HOLY QURBANA

February 4, 11, 25

Holy Mass in Malayalam at 5 PM

February 12 (Ash Monday)

Holy Mass in Malayalam at 9 AM

February 18

Holy Mass in Malayalam at 5 PM

Holy Mass in English at 3:45 PM

MISSION HOUSE MASS SCHEDULE:

Monday - No Mass

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday - 7PM

Friday - 6PM

Saturday - 9AM



BIBLE READINGS

February 4 2024

Fourth Sunday of Denha

Lev 4:13-21

Dan 9:1-9

Col 1:12-19

Mk 2:1-12

February 11 2024

First Sunday of the Great Fast

Ex 24:12-18

Sir 2:1-11

Heb 2:10-18

Lk 4:1-13

February 18 2024

Second Sunday of the Great Fast

Gen 13:1-13

Sir 31:1-11

1 Tim 6:3-10

Lk 19:1-10

February 25 2024

Third Sunday of the Great Fast

Deut 15:7-15

Tob 12:6-15

2 Cor 8:9-15

Mt 6:1-8 ;16-18

Mission House Inauguration & Chapel Blessing

Bishop Mar Jose Kalluvellil formally blessed our new Mission House and Chapel on Saturday Feb-3rd, 2024. View this event [here](#)



Holy Qurbana was celebrated at the chapel by **Bishop Mar Jose Kalluvellil** along with **Fr. Thomas Venmanthara** & **Fr. Sajy Thomas Chakkittamuriyil**



Joe Francis, Ann Fernandez, Vincy William & Joshi Maliackal were felicitated for their selfless contribution and effort for making mission house a reality.



Parish Council Meeting with Bishop



On February 2, 2024, members of the parish council met with Bishop Mar Jose Kalluvellil at the mission house. It was a productive discussion concerning the parish's growth and enhancing the community's spiritual journey.

Thanks giving mass

On Feb-4th, a thanksgiving Mass was offered by Bishop in St. Bernadette Church for all the blessings received in acquiring our mission house.



First Solemn Holy Communion & Confirmation candidates of this year attended the **initiation ceremony** and were bestowed



with special blessings from the Bishop, along with receiving a Bible and textbook.



Mass was followed by a fellowship dinner. The food was prepared in our mission house by our amazing volunteers.

Food prep @Mission House



UPCOMING EVENTS

March 15,16,17
Annual Retreat

May 25 2024
Chitravarnam

CATECHETICAL DEPT.

Beena Parappilly (Principal)
Georgey Varghese (Vice Principal)

PIOUS ASSOCIATIONS

Ninu Joseph

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Jobin Jacob

MATHRUVEDHI

Preetha Sebastian

FAMILY UNITS

The registered members of the Parish are divided into family units based on the location of their residence. Each family unit gathers once a month for prayer meeting. Please visit <https://www.stalphonsabc.org/family-units/> to know which family unit you belong to and the leaders information.

NEWCOMERS HELPDESK

We warmly welcome new parishioners to register and become a part of our community. Registration forms are available at church or on our website.

As a new member, you can take advantage of our parish's dedicated helpdesk for newcomers, which can assist you with finding accommodation, arranging transportation to church, purchasing a vehicle, and any other essential needs. For further inquiries, please contact Biju Ukken (778 709 3834) or Renji Jose (778 986 4005) or send us an email at help@stalphonsabc.org.

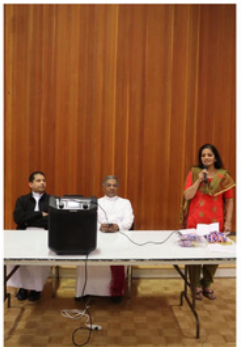


Thanks to all our selfless volunteers who worked behind the scenes!

Catechism department meeting with Bishop

The catechism department met with the Bishop and exchanged valuable insights about nurturing the spiritual growth of our young generation.

Bishop also attended the Catechism assembly engaging the children in an enriching and involved discussion. Medals were distributed to about 60 students who completed the advent calendar activity.



Youth's meeting with Bishop

Bishop met with our youth community inspiring them to deepen their understanding of faith and to serve as a role model for the younger generation.



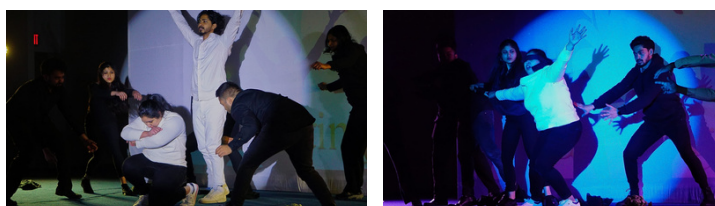
Christingle Eve

St. Alphonsa Parish Vancouver celebrated 'Christingle Eve 2023' on Jan 6th. It was a spectacular celebration that showcased the amazing talent within our church community. Parishioners actively participated in the festivities, with enthusiastic involvement in various performances. The event not only celebrated the beginning of the New Year but also highlighted the unity and creative spirit of our church community, making it a memorable and joyous occasion for all who attended.



International Youth Updates

International youth contributed to the festive atmosphere of Christingle Eve with a captivating mime performance.



SMYM National Youth

Upcoming event: National Youth Social Gathering
Date & Time: Feb 11, 2024 at 7 pm.
Venue: Mission House, 14331, 86 Ave, Surrey